

## Amendments to the Claims:

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1. (currently amended) A silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol polymer comprising a completely hydrolyzed or partially hydrolyzed vinyl ester copolymer having a degree of hydrolysis of from 75 to 100 mol%, obtained by free radical polymerization of

- a) one or more vinyl esters of straight-chain or branched alkane carboxylic acids having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, of which an amount of from 1 to 30 mol%, based on total polymer, are one or more 1-alkylvinyl esters of  $C_{1-6}$  carboxylic acids, where the 1-alkyl groups are  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl radicals;
- b) from 0.01 to 10 mol% of one or more silane-containing, ethylenically unsaturated monomers, and
- c) optionally further comonomers copolymerizable therewith,

and hydrolysis of the polymers obtained thereby<sub>1</sub>[[.]]

wherein the silane-containing, ethylenically unsaturated monomers is selected from the group consisting of ethylenically unsaturated silicon compounds of the general formula  $R^1SiR^2_{0-2}(OR^3)_{1-3}$ , in which each  $R^1$  is independently  $CH_2=CR^4-(CH_2)_{0-1}$  or  $CH_2=CR^4CO_2(CH_2)_{1-3}$ , each  $R^2$  independently is a  $C_{1-3}$ -alkyl radical,  $C_{1-3}$ -alkoxy radical, or halogen, each  $R^3$  independently is an optionally branched, optionally substituted  $C_{1-12}$  alkyl radical or a  $C_{2-12}$  acyl radical optionally interrupted by an ether group, and each  $R^4$  is independently H or  $CH_3$ , a (meth)acrylamide containing silane groups of the formula  $CH_2=CR^5-CO-NR^6-R^7-SiR^8_m-(R^9)_{3-m}$ , in which  $m = 0$  to  $2$ , each  $R^5$  is independently H or a methyl group, each  $R^6$  is independently H or a  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl group, each  $R^7$  is independently a  $C_{1-5}$  alkylene group or a bivalent organic group in which the carbon chain is interrupted by an O or N atom, each  $R^8$  is independently a  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl group, and each  $R^9$  is independently a  $C_{1-40}$  alkoxy group optionally containing further heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of O, N, S, or P, and mixtures thereof.

2. (original) The silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1, wherein the vinyl ester a) comprises vinyl acetate.

3. (original) The silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1, wherein the 1-alkylvinyl ester comprises 1-methylvinyl acetate.

4. (original) The silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1, having a Höppler viscosity according to DIN 53015, as 4% by weight aqueous solution of from 2 to 50 mPas.

5. (previously presented) The silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1, wherein at least one silane-containing, ethylenically unsaturated monomers is selected from the group consisting of ethylenically unsaturated silicon compounds of the general formula  $R^1SiR^2_{0-2}(OR^3)_{1-3}$ , in which each  $R^1$  is independently  $CH_2=CR^4-(CH_2)_{0-1}$  or  $CH_2=CR^4CO_2(CH_2)_{1-3}$ , each  $R^2$  independently is a  $C_{1-3}$ -alkyl radical,  $C_{1-3}$ -alkoxy radical, or halogen, each  $R^3$  independently is an optionally branched, optionally substituted  $C_{1-12}$  alkyl radical or a  $C_{2-12}$  acyl radical optionally interrupted by an ether group, and each  $R^4$  is independently H or  $CH_3$ , and a (meth)acrylamide containing silane groups of the formula  $CH_2=CR^5-CO-NR^6-R^7-SiR^8_m-(R^9)_{3-m}$ , in which  $m = 0$  to  $2$ , each  $R^5$  is independently H or a methyl group, each  $R^6$  is independently H or a  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl group, each  $R^7$  is independently a  $C_{1-5}$  alkylene group or a bivalent organic group in which the carbon chain is interrupted by an O or N atom, each  $R^8$  is independently a  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl group, and each  $R^9$  is independently a  $C_{1-40}$  alkoxy group optionally containing further heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of O, N, S, or P.

6. (original) The silane-containing polyvinyl alcohols of claim 1, wherein said polymerization is a mass polymerization, a suspension polymerization or a polymerization in organic solvents.

7. (original) In a coating slip wherein a polymeric binder is employed, the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymeric binder, a silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1.

8. (original) In a coating slip wherein a polymeric binder is employed, the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymeric binder, a silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 2.

9. (original) In a coating slip wherein a polymeric binder is employed, the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymeric binder, a silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 3.

10. (original) In a coating slip wherein a polymeric binder is employed, the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymeric binder, a silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 4.

11. (original) In a coating slip wherein a polymeric binder is employed, the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymeric binder, a silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 5.

12. (original) A coating slip-coated substrate, comprising a substrate and the coating slip of claim 7.

13. (original) The coating slip-coated substrate of claim 12, wherein the substrate comprises paper, plastics-coated paper, or a plastics foil.

14. (original) The coating slip-coated substrate of claim 12, wherein the substrate is paper.

15. (original) The coating slip-coated substrate of claim 12, wherein said coating slip-coated substrate is suitable for use in ink jet printing.

16. (new) The polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1, wherein silane-containing ethylenically unsaturated monomers are copolymerized in an amount of from 0.01 to 1.0 mol percent.

17. (new) A silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol polymer comprising a completely hydrolyzed or partially hydrolyzed vinyl ester copolymer having a degree of hydrolysis of from 75 to 100 mol%, obtained by free radical polymerization of

- a) a vinyl ester component comprising vinyl acetate, a 1-alkylvinyl ester selected from the group consisting of 1-methylvinyl acetate, 1-ethylvinyl acetate, 1-propylvinyl acetate, and mixtures thereof, and optionally further vinyl esters of straight-chain or branched C<sub>1-18</sub> monocarboxylic acids, wherein polymerized 1-alkylvinyl ester monomers comprise from 1 to 30 weight percent of the polymer.
  - b) from 0.01 to 10 mol% of one or more silane-containing, ethylenically unsaturated monomers, and
  - c) optionally further comonomers copolymerizable therewith,
- and hydrolysis of the polymers obtained thereby.

18. (new) The polymer of claim 17, wherein no optional comonomers c) are present.

19. (new) The polymer of claim 17, wherein the 1-alkylvinyl ester consists essentially of 1-methylvinyl acetate.

20. (new) The polymer of claim 1, wherein no further vinyl esters other than vinyl acetate and 1-methylvinyl acetate are monomers.